

A TRUE
ACCOUNT
OF THE
HORRID CONSPIRACY
AGAINST

The LIFE of His Sacred MAJESTY
WILLIAM III.

KING of England, Scotland, France
and Ireland, &c.

Setting forth how it was Contrived;
How it was to be carried on;
And the manner of its DISCOVERY.

Published By Authority.

DUBLIN,

B Printed by John Brent at the Hercules-Pillars in Essex-street, for Jacob Milner;
and are to be Sold at his Shop over against the End of
Essex-Bridge. 1692.

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FORMED CONSPIRACY

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WILLIAM III.

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History of the same, as far as it

And the manner of its DISCOVERY.

Printed by J. B. Smith, in the Strand.

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Some of the Ministers in the Highest Employments, and of the Greatest Credit in the French Court, having formed a design to Assassinate his Majesty of Great Britain, they made choice of one *Bartholomew de Liniere*, Kt. Sieur de *Grandval*, as their Instrument to manage the Enterprize, to find out persons fit to be employ'd in it, to engage them by promises of great Rewards; as also to be aiding and assisting in his own person.

The said *Grandval* being informed, that one *Anthony Du Mont* had already been engaged in this Design, in the Life-time of the late Marquiss of *Louvois*, he proposed it to him again, to execute the same, by Order of the Marquiss of *Barbesieux*, and some others. Whereupon several Projects were drawn up, several Petitions delivered, and many Conferences were held, and at last the resolution was taken to bring it to effect the last Campaign 1691. But the Providence of God having disappointed them, yet notwithstanding they did not let fall the prosecution of their horrid design. But *Grandval* was employ'd to write frequently to *Du Mont* (who was retired to *Hazouer*,) to stir him up to another Attempt this Campaign, which at last they agreed upon.

One *Leefdale* coming to *Paris* about that time, *Grandval* making an acquaintance with him, discovered to him the said Design, which *Leefdale* shewed a willingness to be concerned in; but soon after gave notice of it by Letters to his Relations in *Holland*, that they might inform his Majesty. And the like discovery was made by *Du Mont* to his Highness the Duke of *Zell*, who acquainted his Majesty with it about the same time that he received the other account.

In the mean time *Grandval* having appointed *Du Mont* a Rendezvous at *Vden* in the Countrey of *Ravensyn*, he set out from *Paris* in company with *Leefdale*, passing through *Brussels*, where he communicated his design to one *John d'Amours*, who was formerly a Domestick Servant to *Leefdale's* Father. From thence they went to *Antwerp*, and so to *Eyndhoven*, where *Grandval* was seized, and carried to *Bois le Duc*.

His

His Majesty directing the Examinations to be taken there, *Leefdale* was first examined, who declared with great exactness, all the circumstances of the Conspiracy. But it is not necessary to mention more of them here, then that *Grandval* told him, The King of Great Britain was look'd upon as the only Obstacle to the French King's Designs. That *Grandval* had sent *Du Mont* last Winter above 200 Pistols, to keep him firm to the business; and that he sent him ten Ducats from *Brussels* by Bill of Exchange. That whilst they were at *Mons*, a Report being spread of some disorders in *Scotland*, which would oblige his Majesty to cross the Sea again: *Grandval* fearing it might happen before he could execute his design, spoke to *Leefdale* in these words: Dear Friend, we are like to lose our Fortunes: I beg of you that we may go away immediately.

John d'Amours being next examined, deposed, That *Grandval* told him at *Brussels*, He had a great business to do, which had miscarried the last year. And they two falling into a discourse about his Majesty, *John d'Amours* ask'd *Grandval*, if he had any thing to say to the King? Yes, answered he, To break his Neck. *John d'Amours* representing to him the difficulties that might attend such an attempt; *Grandval* reply'd, I have given my word to *Monseur Barbseux*, and I'll do it. *D'Amours* adds further, That going one day with *Grandval* and *Leefdale* by the Jesuits Church at *Brussels*, *Grandval* said, Let us go in and say a *Paternoster*, that God would bless our Undertaking: And accordingly they went into the Church.

Du Mont having been examined last, has own'd the Fact in all its circumstances; adding several other particulars, viz. That *Madam Maintenon* was acquainted with the design; and that *Grandval*, in one of his Letters sent to him, us'd this expression, That he would accommodate the Matter by the means of *Madam Maintenon*. That *Grandval* told him, the Business succeeding, he (speaking of himself) should have an ample Recompence, even to be a Duke. That whilst he was at *Hanover* he imparted the design to *Monseur Bedal*, alias *Hosfelt*, who was at that time the French King's Minister in that Court; That he shewed to the said *Monseur Bedal* all the Letters he writ to *Monseur Barbseux* and *Grandval*, as also the Answers he received from them. That the said *Bedal* approved the design, laying, It would be a very good business, if it could be brought to pass; and that *Bedal* lent him fifty Crowns at *Hanover*. *Du Mont* adds further, That he was intimately acquainted with one *Miller*, an Agent for *Bedal*; that the said *Miller* told him, as a great Secret, That *Bedal* had sent him several times to *Holland* with Dispatches, that came from *France*, for *Monseur Moreau*, Envoy to the King of *Poland*; that he always gave those Pacquets into *Monseur Moreau*'s own hand, and *Monseur Moreau* gave him the Answers to them in like manner. And that by the help of *Monseur Bedal*, and *Monseur Moreau*, the Court of *France* managed their choicest Correspondence in *Holland*. At last *Grandval* was Examined, who perceiving that the matter was discovered, and that his own Letters could be produced to convict him, he ingenuously confessed all the circumstances of the design, as they are particularized in the Sentence.

After which, *Grandval* being brought to the Army, he was put upon his Trial before a Grand Court Martial, consisting of General Officers, where he appeared several times, together with the Witnesses above-mentioned, who not only persisted in what they had already deposed, but added many other Particulars and Circumstances, of which there were very few that *Grandval* did not agree to, and that freely, without so much as naming the Rack to him, either before or after Sentence.

Grandval, during his Imprisonment, drew up two Petitions to be presented to His Majesty, all written with his own Hand; in which he says, That as to the before-mentioned Design, He acted in it but in obedience to the Orders he had received from *Monseur Barbseux* and *Monseur Chalais*; That *Du Mont* was Guilty; That *Leefdale* was Guilty; And that he (*Grandval*) was Guilty, since every one that Conspires against a Crown'd Head, is worthy of Death, acknowledging his own Fault.

The

The Judges after this, having met several times, at last gave this Sentence, which is here inserted word for word.

V Hercas *Bartholamew de Linere*, Knight, *Sieur de Grandvill*, Born at *Linere* in *Normandy*, aged about Forty Three years, and now a Prisoner, hath confessed before the Grand Court-Martial, without any Constraint by Pain, or being in Irons; and in further appearing to the said Court-Martial, That the late *Marquis de Louvois*, in his Lifetime, Secretary of State to the French King, in the year 1698 entered into an Agreement with one *Anthony Du Mont*, about the Murder of his Majesty, *William the III. King of Great Britain, &c.* and that the said *Du Mont* had framed a Project, setting forth in what manner that Design might be Executed; that he delivered the said Project to the said *Marquis of Louvois*; That the Prisoner, some time before the *Marquis of Louvois's* Death, asking his leave to go somewhere else, was ordered by the said *Marquis* not to go away, for that he had some Business of Consequence to employ him in, which the Prisoner supposes to have some Relation to the said Design; but the *Marquis of Louvois* dying, some time after, there was no further Progress then made in the said Design.

That the *Marquis of Barbesieux*, Son to the said *Marquis of Louvois*, as also Secretary of State to the French King, having five days after his Fathers death found the said Project, together with a Warrant for Thirty Pistols to be paid to the said *Du Mont*, among his Fathers Papers; the said Design was revived again, and the thirty Pistols were paid accordingly. That the Prisoner contracted an Acquaintance with *Du Mont* at *Monsieur Rabenac's* House, where *Monsieur Paparell*, Pay-Master General to the French Kings Armies, saying one day to *Monsieur Rabenac*, (the Prisoner being present) That if they had a mind to seize the King of England, *Du Mont* would be a fit Person for it; *Du Mont* reply'd with Execrations, That he would carry off his Majesty alive or dead, as he had promised to *Monsieur de Louvois*. That *Du Mont* having delivered the same or the like Project to *Monsieur de Barbesieux*, the Prisoner to promote the said Design, had several Conferences with *Monsieur Barbesieux* and *Monsieur Paparell*, in one of which, *Monsieur Barbesieux* told the Prisoner, That he suspected his Father was Poisoned by Order of the Prince of Orange (meaning his present Majesty of Great Britain) and therefore he would be Revenged of him: That *Monsieur Barbesieux* told the Prisoner in another Conference, That he should give *Du Mont* notice, that his Majesty of Great Britain wore a Coat of Mail, which the Prisoner acquainting *Du Mont* with, he answer'd thereupon, It is no matter, I'll kill him for all that; That *Barbesieux* had said further, He would not speak himself with *Du Mont*, fearing he might be taken Prisoner; and if he should happen then to Name him, it might make a great Breach in his Fortune.

That the Prisoner was engaged with one *Parker*, a Colonel belonging to the late King *James*, to put the said Design in Execution; and that *Parker* had told him, He had formed the said Design with the late *Marquis of Louvois*. That at last, the Prisoner, with the said *Barbesieux*, *Paparell*, *Parker*, and *Du Mont*, agreed upon the manner of Executing the said Design, viz. That the Prisoner and *Parker*, should meet at the Grand Guard of the Duke of *Luxemburg's* Army, where they were to have 1500 Horse: That *Du Mont* should go to the King of England's Army, and watch the time when his Majesty went to visit the Grand Guard; and at the same time he was to shoot his Majesty; that the Prisoner and *Parker*, with 1500 Horse, were to rescue and bring him off, the said *Du Mont* giving timely notice to the Prisoner of the intended Execution. That *Barbesieux* giving the Prisoner Orders to accompany *Du Mont* to *Benin*, he gave him at the same time an Order to the Duke of *Luxemburg* for furnishing the Prisoner with such a Detachment of Horse as he should require, and think necessary for the Design.

That the Prisoner by *Monsieur Barbesieux's* Order Receiv'd of *Monsieur Paparell* 50 *Lewis d'Or*; and in pursuance of *Monsieur Barbesieux's* Directions, he gave to *Du Mont* 50 *Lewis d'Or* out of that Sum, viz. fifteen Pistols in Specie, and a Bill of

Exchange for 460 Livres French Money, to be paid at *Ghent*; That the Prisoner accordingly left *Paris* the 11th of September 1691, and went Post with *Du Mont* to *Meun*; That he defray'd the whole Charge of the Journey; that *Du Mont* acquainted him on the way, That Monsieur *Barbeseux* had promised him an annual Revenue of 20000 Livres, and to make him a Knight of the Order of *St. Lazarus*, in case the design took effect; That the Prisoner coming to *Meun*, went to the Governour, Monsieur *Peruis*, as he had been directed by Monsieur *Barbeseux*, and obtained of him a Passport for *Du Mont*, who parted immediately for *Ghent*, promising the prisoner, that according to their agreement, he would send to him at the Grand Guard; that the Prisoner thereupon went to the Duke of *Luxemburg's* Army, and he and *Parker* continued at the Head of the Grand Guard till the day before the Rencontre at *Luz*, without hearing from *Du Mont*. That *Du Mont* going to *Hanover*, the Prisoner had kept a constant Correspondence with him about executing the same design at some other opportunity; that the Prisoner communicated what Letters he receiv'd from *Du Mont* to Monsieur *Barbeseux*, who gave him directions what Answers he should return; That the Prisoner resolved with Monsieur *Barbeseux*, that the design should be Executed this Campaign, Anno 1692, which had failed the last; That the Prisoner had taken some measures concerning the same with Monsieur *Chalais*, Quarter-master-General to the French King.

In the mean time, one *Frederick Aelbrey*, *Leefdale*, heretofore Captain Lieutenant of a Troop of Dragoons in the Service of the High and Mighty States General of the United Provinces coming to *Paris*, was brought acquainted with the Prisoner by the means of one *Sierck*; That the Prisoner having contracted an infinite familiarity with the said *Leefdale*, discover'd the said design to him towards the latter end of *March* last 1692, telling him, That an Officer who would ingratiate himself in the King's Favour, must venture at something of Consequence; That *Ka*, the Prisoner had concerted the Execution of a Design upon which his Fortune depended; That it was indeed a matter without hazard; but the greater the difficulties were, the more would be the Honour, encouraging *Leefdale* to be concerned in it; and the said *Leefdale* shewing a readiness to comply with him, the prisoner opened himself with greater freedom, and told him, That he was engaged last Campaign with one *Du Mont* to Assassinate the King of Great Britain, but it had no Effect, by reason of his Majesty's leaving the Army so soon; but it was resolved again to put the same in execution this year: That *Du Mont* by many repeated Oaths, had sworn he would do it; yet, he the prisoner feared, that if he were not present, *Du Mont* would not so exactly observe his Orders, and therefore he was resolved to go along with *Du Mont*, asking *Leefdale*, If he would be of the party? who answering, That he would, the prisoner discoursed to him at large of all particulars concerning the Design, and afterwards brought him to Monsieur *Barbeseux* and *Chalais*.

That *Chalais* in one of the Conferences held upon that Subject, told *Leefdale*, the prisoner being by, That a great Reward should be given him, the Business succeeding; That *Barbeseux* and *Paparel* had both of them knowledge of the promised Rewards. That he the prisoner, with the said *Leefdale* and Colonel *Parker*, went to *St. Germain* on the 16th of April 1692, to speak with the late King *James* about the said design, who had knowledge of it, and to take leave of him before they began their journey; That the prisoner had Audience at the same time of the said King *James*, the late Queen being present; King *James* telling him, *Parker* has given me an Account of the Business; If You and the other Officers do me this Service, you shall never want: And *Parker*, the prisoner, and *Leefdale* entred into a discourse about this design.

That *Du Mont's* Wife delivered to Monsieur *Barbeseux* several Letters, which she received from her Husband whilst he was at *Hanover*, and the prisoner continuing his Correspondence with him all the said time, he engaged *Du Mont* by Letters, especially those dated the 20th and 25th of April, and the 12th of May last, to come from *Hanover* to a Rendezvous at *Uden* in the Countrey of *Ravisteyn*, in order to take a final Resolution with the said prisoner and *Leefdale* concerning the manner of exe-

cuting

cutting their Design: the Prisoner pressing *Du Mont* to hasten his Journey, for fear the King of *England* should have occasion to re-pass the Sea; the Prisoner adding withal, That he should be mad if he failed in his Business.

That the Prisoner, with *Chanlais* and *Leefdale*, were agreed in what manner the Assassination should be committed on the Person of His Majesty, viz. That when the King should ride along the Lines, or should go out to take any View, or when the Army should decamp, that *Du Mont* should lie in Ambuscade, and when His Majesty should pass within 100 Paces of him, he should then fire upon the King; That *Chanlais* (to whom notice was to be given before of the time) should be with 3000 Horse at the Duke of *Luxemburg's* Grand Guard; That the Prisoner had told *Leefdale*, There would be no danger for him, since *Du Mont* had a Secret to charm Peoples Eyes, and at all Adventures they two would keep with those who followed the King; and when every body was pursuing after *Du Mont*, they should have time to escape and save themselves, and carry the Account to Monsieur *Chanlais*; and it little concern'd them whether *Du Mont* should be taken or no, provided they could escape themselves; That the Prisoner and *Leefdale* received their last Orders from *Chanlais*, who told them he was going to *Mont*, and that they should stay for him there.

That the Prisoner and *Leefdale* went from *Paris* the 17th of *April* last, and arrived a few days after at *Mont*, having waited some time for Monsieur *Chanlais's* arrival; and finding he did not come, they resolved to go forward to the Rendezvous by the way of *Brussels*; That the Prisoner, as they were travelling on the way, told *Leefdale*, That their Design taking place, the Alliance among the Confederate Princes would be broken; That the Princes concerned would each of them re-call their Troops, and the Countrey being thereby left without Soldiers, the King of *France* would easily make himself Master of it, and King *James* would be Restored again.

That the Prisoner with *Leefdale*, went to the Mayery of *Boisleduc*, and was apprehended at *Eyndhoven*.

And whereas this Horrid Design is contrary to the Laws of God, of Nature, and of all Nations, and ought for the deterring of others from the like Machinations, to be punished with the greatest Rigour: The said Court-Martial, having with mature deliberation Examined and Considered the whole matter, have thought fit to Judge and Declare, as they do hereby Declare, The Prisoner to be Guilty of High-Treason, and do Condemn him to be Drawn on a Sledge to the place of Execution, there to be Hanged on a Gallows; To be cut down before he be Dead; His Body to be opened, and his Bowels to be taken out and burnt; His Head to be set upon a Pole; His Body to be Quartered; And the four Quarters to be hung up where his Majesty shall think fit. And do further declare all his Estate to be Confiscated, and Condemn him to bear the Charges and Cost of this Trial. Given and pronounced in the Head-Quarters of the Army under the Command of His Majesty of *Great Britain*, by the Earl of *Athlone*, General of the Horse, President; the Lieutenant-General *Van Scravenmoro*, and Lieutenant-General *Talmash*; the Marquis de la *Forest*, the Heer *Van Weed*, Count *Noyelles*, and the Heer *Zobel*, Majors-General, and the Brigadiers *Churchil* and *Ramsay*; *Cornelius Van Wou*, and *Richard Vibrayt*, Judges Advocates, Assisting at *Limbeck*, the 11th of *August*, 1692.

Signed,

A T H L O N E.

And Lower,

By Order of the Court-Martial,

Thomas Du Val.

In pursuance of the Sentence above-mentioned, the Chevalier de Grandvall was Executed in the Camp on the 13 of August 1692. All that he said at the place of Execution, was, to recommend himself to the Prayers of those that were present: But the same morning before he went to Execution, he writ this following Letter:

Du Camp de Hall, ce 13 Aout, 1692.

From the Camp at Hall, Aug. 13. 1692.

Madamoiselle,

Madam,

Je vous prie d'aller trouver Monsieur

I Pray you to go to the Archbishop

l'Archevêque de Rheims, avec

of Rheims, with Monsieur Jour

Monsieur Jourduil, & faire connaître

dail, and to let the said Archbishop

au dit Seigneur Archevêque, qu'il m'en

know, That it costs me my Life for

couste la vie, pour avoir obey aux Or-

having obey'd the Orders of Mon-

des de Monsieur de Barbesieux; C'est

sieur de Barbesieux; which is the Pa-

la grace que vous demande votre servi-

your desired of you by your Servant

teur;

De Grandvall;

Voyez Monsieur le Marquis

Speak to the Marquis de Barbesieux;

l'Arx, qu'il contribue à

That he take care I be

faire prier Dieu pour moy.

pray'd for.

A Madamoiselle Juré, de Trevelles, qu'il vis-

To Madam Juré in the Trevelles street, over

de la rue des deux Escus, près de l'Hôtel

against the Street of the Two Crooked

de Soissons, & Paris.

near the Host of Soissons at Paris.

Upon the Occasion of this Letter, it will not be improper to take notice of a Passage that happened some days before Grandvall's Condemnation, since it had so great an Agreement with the said Letter, and may serve to explain it, if it needed any clear Light, which it is as follows.

One discoursing with the Chevalier Grandvall in Prison, and observing he sought to justify himself upon the Orders he had received from the Marquis of Barbesieux, he told him, I thought that was in itself a very weak Excuse for being engaged in a bold Action, yet still it might prove so much the worse, as that it was like enough Monsieur Barbesieux would disown that he gave any such Orders, or that he was any ways concerned with him in a Business of this Nature. To which Grandvall reply'd, Let him deny what he pleases, yet if I were put upon it, I would make it appear very plain, for I have an Original Paper under Monsieur Barbesieux's own hand, which I have lodged with a Friend of mine, who will not part with it to any one but myself, and no body else knows with whom I have entrusted it.

FINIS.

By Order of the Court-Martial.

Thomas Du Val.

